For Immediate Release

South Carolina's Employment Situation
July 2017

Revisions send unemployment rate below 4 percent, employment up almost 41,000 since last year

The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged in July from June's revised rate of 3.9 percent. The last time the unemployment rate was below 4 percent before the latest revisions was in November 2000.

The number of unemployed people edged lower by 141 to 91,486. The number of individuals working across the state fell by 2,217 to 2,228,354 people in July, resulting in the labor force decrease by 2,358 to 2,319,840 people.

Since July 2016, employment gains totaled 40,958, and the labor force has grown by 22,848 people. The level of unemployed people decreased by 18,110.

Nationally, the unemployment rate decreased from 4.4 percent in June to 4.3 percent in July.

Nonfarm Employment by Industry (Seasonally Adjusted[1])
Seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment for July 2017 increased by 7,700 over the month to a record high level of 2,092,000.

- Bright spots for job gains were in Professional and Business Services (+2,800); Government (+2,200); Manufacturing (+1,900); Leisure and Hospitality (+1,700); and Education and Health Services (+1,300). Additional gains were reported in Financial Activities (+300); Other Services (+300); Construction (+200); and Information (+100).
- The Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-3,100) industry saw job losses.

Compared to July 2016, seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 29,800.
- Manufacturing (+9,300); Education and Health Services (+5,700); Professional and Business Services (+5,600); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+4,000); Construction (+3,200); Leisure and Hospitality (+1,900); Financial Activities (+1,100); and Government (+800) all had healthy increases.
- Decreases were reported in Other Services (-1,200) and Information (-700).

Nonfarm Employment by Industry (Not Seasonally Adjusted[2])

Not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 1,700 from June 2017 to July 2017 for a total of 2,092,800. Growth was concentrated primarily in the Leisure and Hospitality (+1,700) sector.

- Additional over-the-month increases were reported in Manufacturing (+1,000); Financial Activities (+400); Education and Health Services (+300); and Professional and Business Services (+200).
- Construction and Information saw no change.
- Employment declines were seen in the Government (-10,100); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-2,600); Other Services (-300); and Mining and Logging (-100).

Since July 2016, not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm jobs were up 34,000 overall in South Carolina.

- Annual gains were marked in Manufacturing (+9,200); Professional and Business Services (+7,800); Education and Health Services (+4,900); Construction (+4,300); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+4,200); Leisure and Hospitality (+2,800); and Government (+2,600).
- Additional gains were in Financial Activities (+900) and Mining and Logging (+100).
- Decreases occurred in the Other Services (-2,200) and Information (-600) sectors.

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[1]Seasonally Adjusted: Seasonal adjustment removes the effects of events that follow a more or less regular pattern each year (i.e. tourist-related hiring and school closings in the summer). These adjustments make it easier to observe the cyclical and other nonseasonal movements in data over time.

[2]Not Seasonally Adjusted: Effects of regular or seasonal patterns have <u>not</u> been removed from these data.

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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide
July 2017

| | July 2017 | June 2017 | July 2016 | June 2017 to July 2017 | | July 2016 to July 2017 | |
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Industry							
Total Nonfarm Employment	*2,092,000*	*2,084,300*	*2,062,200*	*7,700*	*0.37%*	*29,800*	*1.45%*
Construction	98,200	98,000	95,000	200	0.20%	3,200	3.37%
Manufacturing	248,100	246,200	238,800	1,900	0.77%	9,300	3.89%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	398,700	401,800	394,700	-3,100	-0.78%	4,000	1.01%
Information	26,200	26,100	26,900	100	0.38%	-700	-2.60%
Financial Activities	101,300	101,000	100,200	300	0.30%	1,100	1.10%
Professional and Business Services	275,300	272,500	269,700	2,800	1.02%	5,600	2.08%
Education and Health Services	248,200	246,900	242,500	1,300	0.52%	5,700	2.35%
Leisure and Hospitality	250,100	248,400	248,200	1,700	0.68%	1,900	0.77%
Other Services	73,400	73,100	74,600	300	0.41%	-1,200	-1.61%
Government	368,200	366,000	367,400	2,200	0.60%	800	0.22%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Statewide
July 2017

| | July 2017 | June 2017 | July 2016 | June 2017 to July 2017 | | July 2016 to July 2017 | |
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Industry							
Total Nonfarm	*2,092,800*	*2,102,300*	*2,058,800*	*-9,500*	*-0.45%*	*34,000*	*1.65%*
Mining and Logging	4,300	4,400	4,200	-100	-2.27%	100	2.38%
Construction	100,100	100,100	95,800	0	0.00%	4,300	4.49%
Manufacturing	247,600	246,600	238,400	1,000	0.41%	9,200	3.86%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	400,700	403,300	396,500	-2,600	-0.64%	4,200	1.06%
Information	26,300	26,300	26,900	0	0.00%	-600	-2.23%
Financial Activities	102,200	101,800	101,300	400	0.39%	900	0.89%
Professional and Business Services	276,500	276,300	268,700	200	0.07%	7,800	2.90%
Education and Health Services	244,500	244,200	239,600	300	0.12%	4,900	2.05%
Leisure and Hospitality	263,500	261,800	260,700	1,700	0.65%	2,800	1.07%
Other Services	72,800	73,100	75,000	-300	-0.41%	-2,200	-2.93%
Government	354,300	364,400	351,700	-10,100	-2.77%	2,600	0.74%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Seasonally Adjusted
July 2017

Area	July 2017	June 2017	July 2016	June 2017 to July 2017 # Change	June 2017 to July 2017 % Change	July 2016 to July 2017 # Change	July 2016 to July 2017 % Change
Statewide	*2,092,000*	*2,084,300*	*2,062,200*	*7,700*	*0.37%*	*29,800*	*1.45%*
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	352,100	352,500	347,800	-400	-0.11%	4,300	1.24%
Columbia MSA	401,000	398,600	396,900	2,400	0.60%	4,100	1.03%
Florence MSA	89,600	89,700	87,500	-100	-0.11%	2,100	2.40%
Greenville/Anderson/Mauldin MSA	413,200	413,200	410,200	0	0.00%	3,000	0.73%
Myrtle Beach MSA	162,600	164,400	160,400	-1,800	-1.11%	2,200	1.37%
Spartanburg MSA	151,000	151,700	147,500	-700	-0.46%	3,500	2.37%
Sumter MSA	39,400	39,200	39,100	200	0.51%	300	0.77%

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY AREA, NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

South Carolina & Metropolitan Not Seasonally Adjusted
July 2017

Area	July 2017	June 2017	July 2016	June 2017 to July 2017 # Change	June 2017 to July 2017 % Change	July 2016 to July 2017 # Change	July 2016 to July 2017 % Change
Statewide	*2,092,800*	*2,102,300*	*2,058,800*	*-9,500*	*-0.45%*	*34,000*	*1.65%*
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	353,800	355,200	348,600	-1,400	-0.39%	5,200	1.49%
Columbia MSA	397,600	398,300	392,100	-700	-0.18%	5,500	1.40%
Florence MSA	88,600	89,500	86,200	-900	-1.01%	2,400	2.78%
Greenville MSA	409,500	414,200	406,800	-4,700	-1.13%	2,700	0.66%
Hilton Head Island/Bluffton MSA	80,300	80,000	78,700	300	0.38%	1,600	2.03%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA	174,200	174,900	170,400	-700	-0.40%	3,800	2.23%
Spartanburg MSA	148,200	151,300	145,300	-3,100	-2.05%	2,900	2.00%
Sumter MSA	39,100	39,300	38,900	-200	-0.51%	200	0.51%

Note: Employment estimates have been rounded to the nearest hundred. Sum of detail may not equal totals due to rounding or the exclusion of certain industries from publication. All data are subject to revision.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS BY COUNTY, MSA, AND STATE
(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

AREA		July 2017 LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	RATE (%)	June 2017 LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	RATE (%)	July 2016 LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	RATE (%)
Bamberg County	↑	5,432	5,018	414	7.6	5,347	4,946	401	7.5	5,487	4,937	550	10.0
Allendale County	↑	2,774	2,581	193	7.0	2,726	2,538	188	6.9	2,792	2,549	243	8.7
Marion County	↑	13,134	12,215	919	7.0	13,021	12,119	902	6.9	13,033	11,953	1,080	8.3
Marlboro County	↑	9,462	8,804	658	7.0	9,339	8,696	643	6.9	9,429	8,617	812	8.6
Orangeburg County	↑	36,117	33,692	2,425	6.7	35,675	33,332	2,343	6.6	36,352	33,012	3,340	9.2
Union County	↑	11,972	11,188	784	6.5	11,923	11,297	626	5.3	11,675	10,953	722	6.2
Williamsburg County	↑	12,951	12,116	835	6.4	12,796	11,993	803	6.3	12,852	11,872	980	7.6
Chester County	↑	13,979	13,117	862	6.2	14,018	13,206	812	5.8	13,832	12,794	1,038	7.5
Fairfield County	↑	10,272	9,650	622	6.1	10,159	9,590	569	5.6	10,277	9,512	765	7.4
Lee County	↑	6,703	6,291	412	6.1	6,627	6,236	391	5.9	6,681	6,201	480	7.2
Cherokee County	↑	24,211	22,793	1,418	5.9	23,798	22,660	1,138	4.8	23,677	22,261	1,416	6.0
Barnwell County	–	8,554	8,055	499	5.8	8,455	7,963	492	5.8	8,525	7,886	639	7.5
Clarendon County	↑	13,299	12,560	739	5.6	13,155	12,433	722	5.5	13,226	12,367	859	6.5
Dillon County	↓	13,280	12,555	725	5.5	13,141	12,410	731	5.6	13,221	12,351	870	6.6
Darlington County	↑	30,770	29,119	1,651	5.4	30,767	29,151	1,616	5.3	30,331	28,420	1,911	6.3
Sumter County	↑	44,825	42,410	2,415	5.4	44,653	42,286	2,367	5.3	44,634	41,991	2,643	5.9
Georgetown County	↑	26,540	25,199	1,341	5.1	26,285	24,959	1,326	5.0	26,292	24,687	1,605	6.1
Laurens County	↑	30,814	29,285	1,529	5.0	30,674	29,387	1,287	4.2	30,587	28,980	1,607	5.3
Oconee County	↑	35,612	33,821	1,791	5.0	35,110	33,560	1,550	4.4	35,004	33,190	1,814	5.2
Calhoun County	–	7,056	6,714	342	4.8	7,014	6,674	340	4.8	7,054	6,624	430	6.1
Lancaster County	↑	38,410	36,563	1,847	4.8	38,613	36,847	1,766	4.6	37,596	35,626	1,970	5.2
Spartanburg County	↑	145,639	138,624	7,015	4.8	145,966	139,947	6,019	4.1	142,798	135,753	7,045	4.9
Abbeville County	↑	10,541	10,041	500	4.7	10,442	9,964	478	4.6	10,395	9,809	586	5.6
Colleton County	–	17,577	16,750	827	4.7	17,464	16,636	828	4.7	17,340	16,400	940	5.4
Florence County	↑	66,873	63,802	3,071	4.6	67,000	64,010	2,990	4.5	65,509	62,061	3,448	5.3
Greenwood County	↑	32,039	30,576	1,463	4.6	31,715	30,291	1,424	4.5	31,575	29,934	1,641	5.2
McCormick County	–	3,480	3,321	159	4.6	3,456	3,297	159	4.6	3,423	3,238	185	5.4
Hampton County	–	8,630	8,243	387	4.5	8,510	8,124	386	4.5	8,623	8,122	501	5.8
Kershaw County	–	29,821	28,492	1,329	4.5	29,640	28,317	1,323	4.5	29,697	28,077	1,620	5.5
Chesterfield County	–	22,625	21,620	1,005	4.4	22,473	21,490	983	4.4	22,253	21,159	1,094	4.9
Edgefield County	↑	11,042	10,561	481	4.4	10,957	10,482	475	4.3	10,925	10,316	609	5.6
Pickens County	↑	57,063	54,564	2,499	4.4	57,249	54,784	2,465	4.3	56,888	53,936	2,952	5.2
Horry County	–	150,529	144,117	6,412	4.3	149,887	143,454	6,433	4.3	147,727	140,578	7,149	4.8
Anderson County	↑	90,277	86,482	3,795	4.2	90,333	86,775	3,558	3.9	89,799	85,549	4,250	4.7
Richland County	–	204,289	195,626	8,663	4.2	203,087	194,469	8,618	4.2	202,370	192,387	9,983	4.9
Aiken County	↑	76,321	73,229	3,092	4.1	75,737	72,684	3,053	4.0	75,086	71,292	3,794	5.1
York County	↑	132,504	127,101	5,403	4.1	133,480	128,167	5,313	4.0	129,783	123,699	6,084	4.7
Beaufort County	–	76,686	73,637	3,049	4.0	75,905	72,906	2,999	4.0	75,528	72,004	3,524	4.7
Newberry County	↑	19,756	18,959	797	4.0	19,457	18,723	734	3.8	19,544	18,689	855	4.4
Greenville County	↑	248,307	238,560	9,747	3.9	248,522	239,384	9,138	3.7	246,480	235,932	10,548	4.3
Berkeley County	–	98,341	94,575	3,766	3.8	98,006	94,277	3,729	3.8	97,174	92,821	4,353	4.5
Dorchester County	–	76,488	73,578	2,910	3.8	76,242	73,358	2,884	3.8	75,586	72,218	3,368	4.5
Saluda County	↑	9,239	8,886	353	3.8	9,142	8,803	339	3.7	9,243	8,842	401	4.3
Jasper County	–	12,617	12,162	455	3.6	12,549	12,097	452	3.6	12,429	11,874	555	4.5
Lexington County	–	150,004	144,632	5,372	3.6	149,180	143,819	5,361	3.6	148,367	142,355	6,012	4.1
Charleston County	–	209,135	201,773	7,362	3.5	208,680	201,421	7,259	3.5	206,312	197,890	8,422	4.1
Charleston - North Charleston MSA	↑	383,964	369,926	14,038	3.7	382,928	369,056	13,872	3.6	379,072	362,929	16,143	4.3
Columbia MSA	–	410,681	394,000	16,681	4.1	408,222	391,672	16,550	4.1	407,008	387,797	19,211	4.7
Florence MSA	↑	97,643	92,921	4,722	4.8	97,767	93,161	4,606	4.7	95,840	90,481	5,359	5.6
Greenville -Anderson-Mauldin MSA	↑	426,461	408,891	17,570	4.1	426,778	410,330	16,448	3.9	423,754	404,397	19,357	4.6
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	–	2,319,840	2,228,354	91,486	3.9	2,322,198	2,230,571	91,627	3.9	2,296,992	2,187,396	109,596	4.8

Current month's estimates are preliminary.

Counties are sorted by current month's unemployment rate in descending order.

↑ Unemployment Rate Up
↓ Unemployment Rate Down
– Unemployment Rate =